

4 Results

4.1 Stakeholders, Needs & Issues By County

This section of the document contains the results from the information-gathering process within each county. **Important Note:** In many of the meetings held in individual counties, there were issues brought up which are not consortium issues, or issues that can or should be addressed at the consortium level. These concerns have all been documented in the meeting minutes from those meetings (which all appear in an appendix to this document), but they may not be repeated or documented in this section. The concentration in this document was on items relevant to and addressable by the consortium.

Appendix D – Radio Inventory Summary contains a detailed listing of the radio inventories of those agencies who answered questionnaires. If questionnaires were not answered, there may not be an entry for those agencies. The one notable exception is Fallon County, where Chuck Lee sent the Project Manager a good deal of information about radios in that county.



4.1.6 Dawson County

County Representative: Chief Alan Michaels, Glendive Police Department. 406-377-2364

Number Of County Stakeholder Questionnaires Returned: 9

Number Of County Agencies Represented By Questionnaires: 9

4.1.6.1 County Interactions

The following matrix details the major stakeholders in the county and how they interact with each other.

Dawson County	Glendive Medical Center	Glendive EMS	Dawson Co. Fire Services	Dawson Co./Glendive PD Dispatch	Montana Highway Patrol	Glendive PD	BNSF Railway	City of Glendive Public Works	Dawson Rural/W. Glendive Fire	Dawson County Sheriff's Office	Glendive Fire Dept.	Dawson County Road Dept.	Wibaux County	Richland County	Prairie County	McCone County	Fallon County	MDOT	Dawson Co. DES	Dawson Co./District? Sanitarian	MT Army National Guard	Regional Prison (DOC)	Dawson Co. Public Works	Juvenile Probation (DOC)	Adult Probation (Dist. Court)	GMC	Richey EMS	Richey Fire	Dawson County SAR	KXGN Radio Station	Richey Public Works	TAB Electronics	Baker Dispatch	MT FVP	Dawson County Health Dept.	FBI	BLM	Forest Service	DNRC	Montana Army National Guard	Dawson County Fire Warden	TAB Electronics		
Glendive Medical Center																																												
Glendive EMS	E																																											
Dawson Co. Fire Services	E	E																																										
Dawson Co./Glendive PD Dispatch	E	E	E																																									
Dawson Co. Coroner	E	E	E	E																																								
Montana Highway Patrol	E	E	E	E	E																																							
Glendive PD	E	B	B	E	B																																							
BNSF Railway	E	E	E	E	E	B																																						
City of Glendive Public Works	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																																					
Dawson Rural/W. Glendive Fire	E	E	E	B	E	E	B	E																																				
Dawson County Sheriff's Office	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																																			
Glendive Fire Dept.	E	E	E	E	B	B	B	B	B																																			
Dawson County Road Dept.	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																																		
Wibaux County	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E																																	
Richland County	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E																																
Prairie County	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																															
McCone County	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																														
Fallon County	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																													
MDOT	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E																												
Dawson Co. DES	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																											
Dawson Co./District? Sanitarian	E	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																										
MT Army National Guard	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																									
Regional Prison (DOC)	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																								
Dawson Co. Public Works	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																							
Juvenile Probation (DOC)	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																						
Adult Probation (Dist. Court)	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																					
GMC	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																					
Richey EMS	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																				
Richey Fire	E	E	B	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																			
Dawson County SAR	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																		
KXGN Radio Station	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																	
Richey Public Works	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E																
TAB Electronics	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E															
Baker Dispatch	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E														
MT FVP	E	E	E	E	E	B	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E													
Dawson County Health Dept.	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E												
FBI	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E											
BLM	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E										
Forest Service	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
DNRC	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
Montana Army National Guard	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
Dawson County Fire Warden	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	
TAB Electronics	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	

Figure 9 – Communication Interactions, Dawson County

4.1.6.2 Questionnaire Results

Richey Volunteer Fire Dept.

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

05/11/2005

Location of Agency:

Richey, MT

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

Raymond (Butch) Raisl

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

Not answered.

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

Not answered.

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

Not answered.

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Not answered.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Not answered.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Not answered.

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

Not answered.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

5

B. Number of Portable Unit:

8

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

No.

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

Local fire bar in Richey or 911 Dispatch in Glendive.

B. From where?

*911 Glendive
Fire Bar - Richey*

C. Hardware Used?

Not answered.

D. Number of Positions?

Not answered

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

[The word “adequate” above was underlined.]

7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

Not answered.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

Local control for local calls, but ability to be linked with the county when needed.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

Not answered.

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

Not answered.

B. On an emergency basis:

McCone County & Richland County

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

Daily use not done. Radio communication only when on a fire call or training.

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered



Dawson County Disaster & Emergency Services (DES)

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

06/08/2005

Location of Agency:

207 W. Bell Street
Glendive, MT

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

Helen Conradsen, Dawson County DES

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

I have portable with 16 channels (Motorola HT1250). I do not have my own system. May use simplex or duplex depending on who I may be communicating with.

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

PD – Emergencies/Disasters; Sheriff – Emergencies/Disasters; Local Fire - Emergencies/Disasters; County Road Dept – to gather information; other channels may use to monitor during emergencies/disasters;

3. Coverage - NA

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

Not answered.

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Not answered.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Not answered.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Not answered

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

Not answered

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

1 to be installed in EOC

B. Number of Portable Unit:

4

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

Mobile P25 enabled

Portable units, no

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

See Dispatch questionnaire.

B. From where?

Not answered.

C. Hardware Used?

Not answered

D. Number of Positions?

Not answered

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

Not answered

7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

N/A.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

N/A.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

Need really good communications in our EOC. Have a designated room to set up dispatching capabilities in emergencies and would also serve as the alternate 911 Center.

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

Not answered

B. On an emergency basis:

All agencies that might be involved in a disaster/emergency.

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

May conduct coordinating efforts for responding entities during disaster/emergencies.

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. *Whatever system it would take to set up good communications from the EOC.*
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered.



City of Glendive

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

5/09/2005

Location of Agency:

*300 S. Morrill
Glendive, MT 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

Wilbur Wallace/Gary Zuroff

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

1 Simplex

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

155.715

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

All

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Good

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Not answered.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Not answered.



E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

N/A.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

30

B. Number of Portable Unit:

7

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

2 – 1 mobile and 1 handheld

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

None needed. Radio to radio or base.

B. From where?

Not answered.

C. Hardware Used?

Not answered.

D. Number of Positions?

Not answered.

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

Not answered.

7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

No.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

Independent of other interference.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

Not enough P25 radios.

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

None.

B. On an emergency basis:

P.D./Fire/Ambulance/Co. Fire

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

Routine operation.

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

1. *More P25 radios.*
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. *Flexibility.*
2. *Affordability.*



- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered.



Glendive Medical Center

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

Not answered.

Location of Agency:

*202 Prospect Drive
Glendive, MT 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

Not answered.

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

Not answered.

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

Not answered.

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

90%

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Acceptable.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

We have in building areas (x-ray, certain areas of basement) that signal is not reliable.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Improvement would be nice, as community rooms (Carney Center) is used a lot, but coverage is weak.

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

N/A.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

N/A.

B. Number of Portable Unit:

N/A.

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

Not answered.

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

We have a base radio station that communicates with ambulance service.

We have a paging system that we can page out by pager # from our facility.

B. From where?

Paging from nurses station.

Radios at emergency room and nurses station.

C. Hardware Used?

See prior response.

D. Number of Positions?

Not answered.

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

We have been told by TAB that what we have is the most current, but if there is better hardware available, we would certainly be interested in upgrading to whatever is available.

7. Sharing of System**A. Is your system currently being shared?**

Yes

B. Which parts and with whom?

Radio is with ambulance/fire/local dispatch

8. What is good about your current system?

We are satisfied with the functions of our current system. It's simple to use – easy to train new staff on how to use.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

*Encryption would be great for Medicare reports from ambulance. Being able to use Pt. name could give E.R. staff a head start on pulling down Pt. records before Pt arrives.
Equipment looks obsolete/aged, but still seems to work fine.
Paging is not at the level we would like it. Metro areas have access to better paging capabilities (two-way talk, text message, etc). Ours is very basic.*

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?**A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:**

Not answered.

B. On an emergency basis:

Ambulance service, fire service, local dispatch.

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

We basically receive radio communication from ambulance in the field with status report on the call they are responding to and the patient information once that is available. We also have a scanner to help alert E.R. staff, but this is not always monitored and not the best source of information.



12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

1. *Encryption.*
2. *Paging Units*
3. *Call alert (?)*
- 4.
- 5.

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. *Greater functionality.*
2. *Affordability.*
3. *Simplicity/education for end users.*
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered.



District Sanitarian

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

Not answered.

Location of Agency:

*207 W. Bell
Glendive, MT 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

*Dennis J. Snow, R.S.
District Sanitarian*

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

16

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

I don't know the frequencies. I can communicate with each county – sheriff – road department.

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

All – repeater.

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Ok.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Terrain is only factor.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?



Not answered.

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

Mobile to Mobile is more of a problem because of terrain.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

1

B. Number of Portable Unit:

0

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

No.

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

Through the Glendive Police Department dispatch center for Dawson County. Prairie and Wibaux counties are handled out of Baker, MT Dispatch.

B. From where?

Glendive & Baker.

C. Hardware Used?

N/A

D. Number of Positions?

N/A

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

N/A

7. Sharing of System



A. Is your system currently being shared?

Yes.

B. Which parts and with whom?

County road crew and Public Works.

8. What is good about your current system?

It allows us to communicate.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

It provides limited access to other departments, i.e. police department, sheriff's office, ambulance, and City of Glendive.

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

Public Works.

B. On an emergency basis:

Public Works.

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

Daily – car to office.

Emergency – Car to Sheriff's office.

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

- 1. Mobile to mobile coverage.*
- 2. Mobile to base coverage.*
- 3.*
- 4.*
- 5.*



13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. *Affordability.*
2. *Reliability.*
3. *Flexibility.*
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered.



Glendive Fire Department

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

05/10/2005

Location of Agency:

*300 S. Merrill Ave.
Glendive, MT 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

George Lane, Fire Chief

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

78

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

154.355 Simplex

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

100%

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Excellent.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Not answered.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Yes, some basement areas in buildings around town are not capable of rx/tx radio transmissions. (ie court house, gmc.)



E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

No, no.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

4

B. Number of Portable Unit:

10

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

*Command van-mobile/portable
Engine 1 - portable*

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

Through 911 center via pagers and direct line to fire station.

B. From where?

911 center.

C. Hardware Used?

Centra-com Platronics head set.

D. Number of Positions?

1

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

No, at times, during a large emergency dispatch becomes overwhelmed with just one operator and station. Have 2 dispatchers on duty 24/7 and have 2 dispatch positions. Also dispatch for ambulance calls.



7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

No.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

It is new and up-to-date. (partially)

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

Our pagers are old and obsolete. Not all of our mobiles/portables are P25 capable. A reliable secondary dispatch center is not equipped to handle a relocation.

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

*Glendive Fire Department.
Glendive Ambulance Service.
Glendive Public Works Department.*

B. On an emergency basis:

West Glendive Fire Department, Dawson County Rural Fire Dept., Glendive Police Department, Glendive Ambulance service, Glendive Public Works Dept., BNSF, MT DOT, Dawson County Sheriff, Dawson County DES, Dawson County Sanitarian.

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

*Day-to-day administrative – notify dispatch of vehicle location (other than fire station).
Emergencies – operate from 154.355 for paging of firemen and dispatch of fire vehicles.
Operate from 154.355 for fire department operational command. Utilize other channels as needed for command.*

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.



1. *New pagers.*
2. *4 Mobile Radios (P-25 capable)*
3. *8 Portable radios (P-25 capable)*
- 4.
- 5.

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. *Affordability.*
2. *Simplicity.*
3. *Maintainability.*
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Provide 1 channel to DES that is encrypted and available throughout the entire county to be utilized in a major emergency for command and control.



Glendive Police Dept.

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

05/10/2005

Location of Agency:

*440 Colorado Blvd.
P.O. Box 1372
Glendive, MT 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

*Glendive Police Department
Communications Center for Dawson County
Chief Alan Michaels*

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

*21 Channels programmed in the vehicles.
2 of these are monitor only (MHP & Weather)
6 Channels in the Dispatch system.
511 is Simplex
485 and County Road are Duplex.*

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

*485 – Dispatch county and city 159.150 & 155.010
511 - Dispatch city 158.970
Mutual Aid – Dispatch all other agencies (silver) 155.790
County Road – Dispatch county road crews 154.980 & 155.880
471 – Dispatch ambulance (not used)
577 – low band, not used.*

The multiple pairs are both Makoshika Park and Richey (485 & County road).

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

65%

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Present coverage is not acceptable/needs improvement.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Severe terrain, gaps, in building problems.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Not answered.

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

No. Yes mobile to mobile is needed county wide.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

4 mobile units

B. Number of Portable Unit:

10

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

All units are currently P25 capable.

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

Dispatch is conducted by the Glendive Police Department for all of Dawson County, EMS, and Fire.

B. From where?

440 Colorado Blvd., Glendive MT 59330

C. Hardware Used?



*Centra-com
Platronics Head set (2)*

D. Number of Positions?

One at the present time, but we are looking at adding a second this month.

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

Adequate even if we were to take on another county. The only improvement needed at this time is to add frequencies from surrounding Counties.

7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

No.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

*Operator friendly
Multiple paging capable
Computerized*

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

*Dead zones
No contact with adjoining counties
Not all units have encryption*

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

Fire, EMS, MHP and WFP, Department of Corrections, other surrounding Counties.

B. On an emergency basis:



Sanitation office, Health Department, Adult Probation, surrounding counties.

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

Dispatch to patrol units on duty to include (county and city)

Dispatch to do status checks

Dispatch for Glendive Fire and West Glendive Fire Departments

911 Dispatch

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

1. County wide radio coverage (no dead zones)

2. Dispatch to have communications or monitor adjoining county radio traffic

3. Mobile to mobile coverage

4.

5.

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. Reliability

2. Operability

3. Easy to Maintain

4. Affordability

5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

We have a large county with diverse terrain – deep coulees.

Low population.

Financially restricted budgets (county and city)

We are not enhanced 911, which increases our probability of locating certain emergencies.



Dawson County Coroner

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

May 3, 2005

Location of Agency:

*221 N. Meade Ave
P.O. Box 848
Glendive, MT 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

*Lance Silha – Coroner
Dan Silvernale – Deputy Coroner*

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

*Simplex and duplex
15 channels*

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

From attached sheet...

*Channel 1 – Dawson County Sheriff repeater (485)
Channel 2 – Dawson County Sheriff direct
Channel 3 – State Search and Rescue (purple)
Channel 4 – Interagency (Gold)
Channel 5 – Glendive Police (511)
Channel 6 – Wibaux Sheriff repeater
Channel 7 – Wibaux Sheriff direct
Channel 8 – Wibaux County repeater
Channel 9 – Wibaux County direct
Channel 10 – National Law (blue)
Channel 11 – Golden Valley County repeater
Channel 12 – Golden Valley County direct
Channel 13 – Weather 400 (Miles City)
Channel 14 – Weather 550 (Circle)
Channel 15 – Weather 475 (Glendive)*



The repeater channels are duplex and the others are simplex. This radio has a combination of duplex and simplex frequencies.

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

85%

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

100% would be better

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Severe terrain...all of the above.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Not answered.

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

No...having mobile to mobile would be very helpful.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

3

B. Number of Portable Unit:

Not answered.

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

Not capable or enabled.

6. Dispatch

A. How is dispatch conducted?

Via Dawson County/Glendive PD dispatch.

B. From where?

Glendive, MT.

C. Hardware Used?

Motorola Maxtrac 300

D. Number of Positions?

Not answered.

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

Not answered.

7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

No.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

We are able to communicate with the various agencies that are normally involved with our agency.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

*Present equipment is ready for replacement...having already provided a useful life.
Problems in addition to gaps/severe terrain would include the fact that anyone with a home scanner can listen to our conversations with any other agencies that we are talking with.*

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

Just the ones that I am able to communicate with at this time.

B. On an emergency basis:

Highway patrol.

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

Communication is only on an at need basis when responding to a coroners call (death).

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

1. *100% area coverage*
2. *Encryption*
3. *Mobile to mobile coverage*
- 4.
- 5.

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

1. *Simplicity*
2. *Reliability*
3. *Flexibility*
- 4.
- 5.

14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered



Dawson Rural/West Glendive Fire Dept.

Date of Interview or Survey Completion:

05/02/2005

Location of Agency:

*1714 Crisafulli Drive
Glendive MT, 59330*

Person Present And Agencies/Entities Represented:

*Tim Mort
Chief County Fire Warden
West Glendive Fire Dept.
Dawson Rural Fire Dept.*

Questions

1. Number of Channels? Simplex or Duplex?

*16 Channels in all of our radios
4 Radios have 100 plus channels*

2. List the frequencies your agency currently uses and how each is used.

*Red (state fire)
511
485 repeater
485 direct
Dawson County Road direct
Dawson County Road repeater
Gold
Coral
Scarlet
White
Glendive Fire
Circle
Sidney Fire repeater
Wibaux repeater
DNRC*

Red is used for our fire channel.



*511-485 dispatch
Dawson county paging
Glendive fire – mutual aid
Use the rest for mutual aid*

3. Coverage

A. Approximately what percentage of your jurisdictional area is adequately covered?

85% - using several channels

B. How acceptable is that coverage?

Fairly acceptable – we can usually get someone to get out on a channel.

C. If unacceptable, why (Severe terrain, Gaps, Antenna Patterns, In-building Problems, etc.)?

Severe terrain, gaps.

D. If acceptable, would an improvement still be desired? Why?

Not answered.

E. Do you have mobile-to-mobile coverage countywide? If not, do you need it?

No we do not have mobile to mobile on our channels. We need it very much.

4. Current Loading

A. Number of Mobile Units:

13

B. Number of Portable Unit:

14

5. Any units currently P25 capable/enabled? Which ones?

*2 handhelds
1 mobile*

6. Dispatch



A. How is dispatch conducted?

We use the Glendive police department of dispatch. They page us out and give us updates and any information that is needed to assist us at an incident.

B. From where?

Glendive police department (law enforcement center)

C. Hardware Used?

Not answered.

D. Number of Positions?

Not answered.

E. Adequate? If not, why? How could it be improved?

Not answered.

7. Sharing of System

A. Is your system currently being shared?

Our paging frequency is shared with county road department our dispatch frequency is shared with sheriff and police.

B. Which parts and with whom?

Not answered.

8. What is good about your current system?

Not answered.

9. What are the issues, problems, or challenges with your current system not already covered above?

Our system is limited to our use. Dispatch doesn't monitor our channel. Our system is not on a repeater. In most areas we have to move to law enforcement channels to get any distance.

10. What other agencies do you need to communicate with?

A. On a day-to-day (administrative) basis:

Sheriff and dispatch center – Glendive fire department.

B. On an emergency basis:

Sheriff Dept., Police dept, County road, Glendive fire.

Surrounding counties – Wibaux – Richland – Prairie – McCone - Fallon

11. Please describe your radio communications during typical day-to-day (administrative) activities and during emergencies.

Day to day normal we talk among ourselves on our channel and to dispatch when needed.

Emergency – after paging I check out with dispatch, gather all the information available, switch over to our channel to I.C. the incident, switch back to dispatch channel to talk with dispatch, then back to our channel to I.C. There are chances of missing important information.

12. List, in priority order, up to five (5) communications improvements needed from initial dispatch to call completion.

- 1. On initial page dispatch needs better training to understand how our system is suppose to work. We have 2 different departments and they are dispatched completely different. Not all of the dispatchers understand our system.*
- 2. Dispatch doesn't have our mobile to mobile frequencies (fire ground channel) so we have to switch back and forth to communicate from our firemen to dispatch.*
- 3. Parts of the county are not covered on 485 dispatch channel so we have to switch over to county road channel hope the switch.*
- 4.*
- 5.*

13. List, in priority order, up to five (5) factors that will be critical to future radio system in your county, city, or area of jurisdiction.

- 1. Affordability*
- 2. Reliability*
- 3. Simplicity*
- 4. Education*
- 5. Redundancy*



14. Please use this space to add any items or comments which you would like to make that have not been covered above.

Not answered.

4.1.6.3 County Concerns or Issues

1. Communications Improvements

The following pie chart depicts the communications improvements desired by the responding stakeholders in this county:

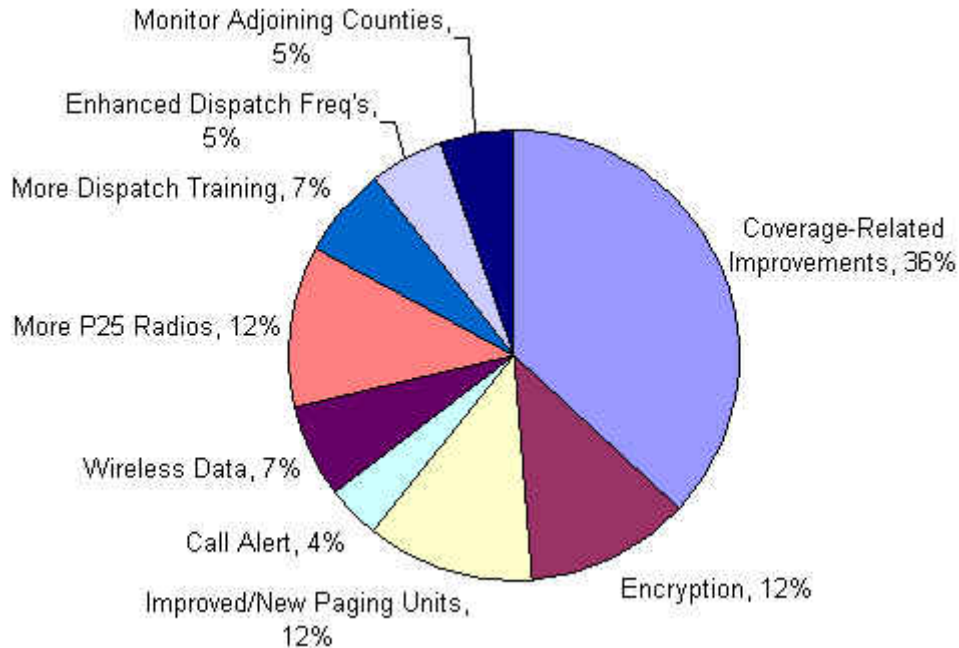


Figure 10 – Communications Improvements, Dawson County

How to read this chart:

Stakeholders were asked to list, in priority order, the top five communications improvements they would like to see. Those items ranked higher were given a higher point value than those ranked lower. A percentage was then calculated. If the chart contains less than five “wedges,” this means the stakeholders did not list the full five possible items.

2. Success Factors

The following chart depicts the success factors considered critical by the responding stakeholders in this county in order for the Eastern Tier radio project to be successful.

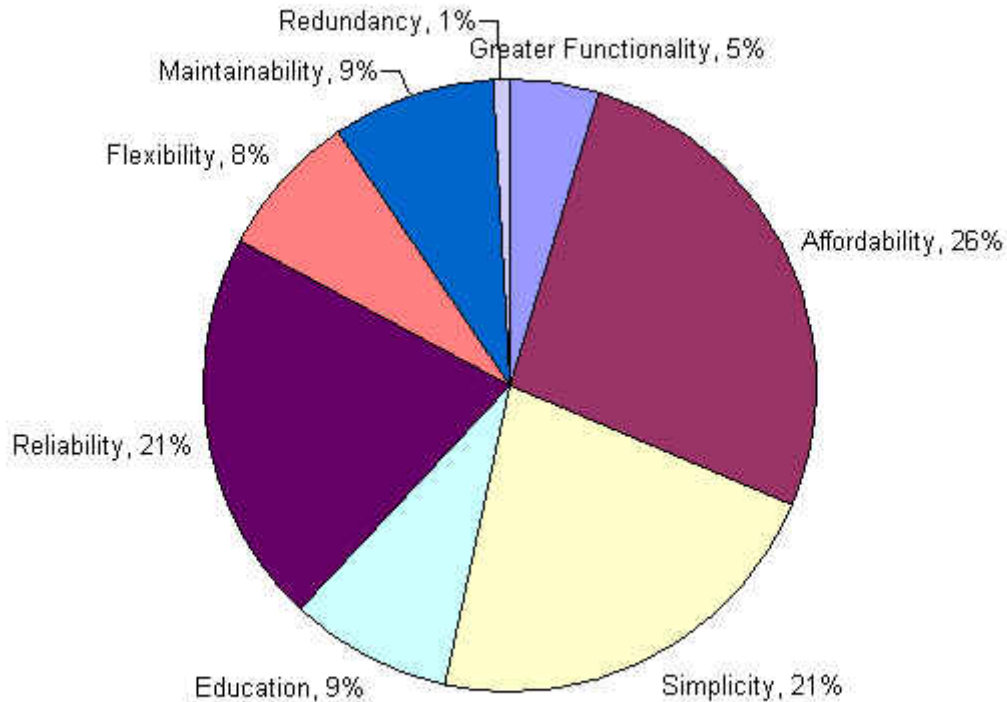


Figure 11 – Critical Success Factors, Dawson County

How to read this chart:

Stakeholders were asked to list, in priority order, the top five factors they felt were most necessary for the Eastern Tier radio project to be successful. Those items ranked higher were given a higher point value than those ranked lower, in order to give higher-ranked items more weight. A percentage for each item was then calculated. If the chart contains less than five items (“wedges”), this indicates the stakeholders did not list the full five possible items.

Some of the same items often appear in both the communications improvements chart and the critical success factors chart. This indicates that these items are very important to the stakeholders.

3. Dead Spots

- A. Southwestern portion of the county south of Lindsay.
- B. Extreme southeastern portion of the county near Hodges.
- C. Cell phone coverage is very poor.

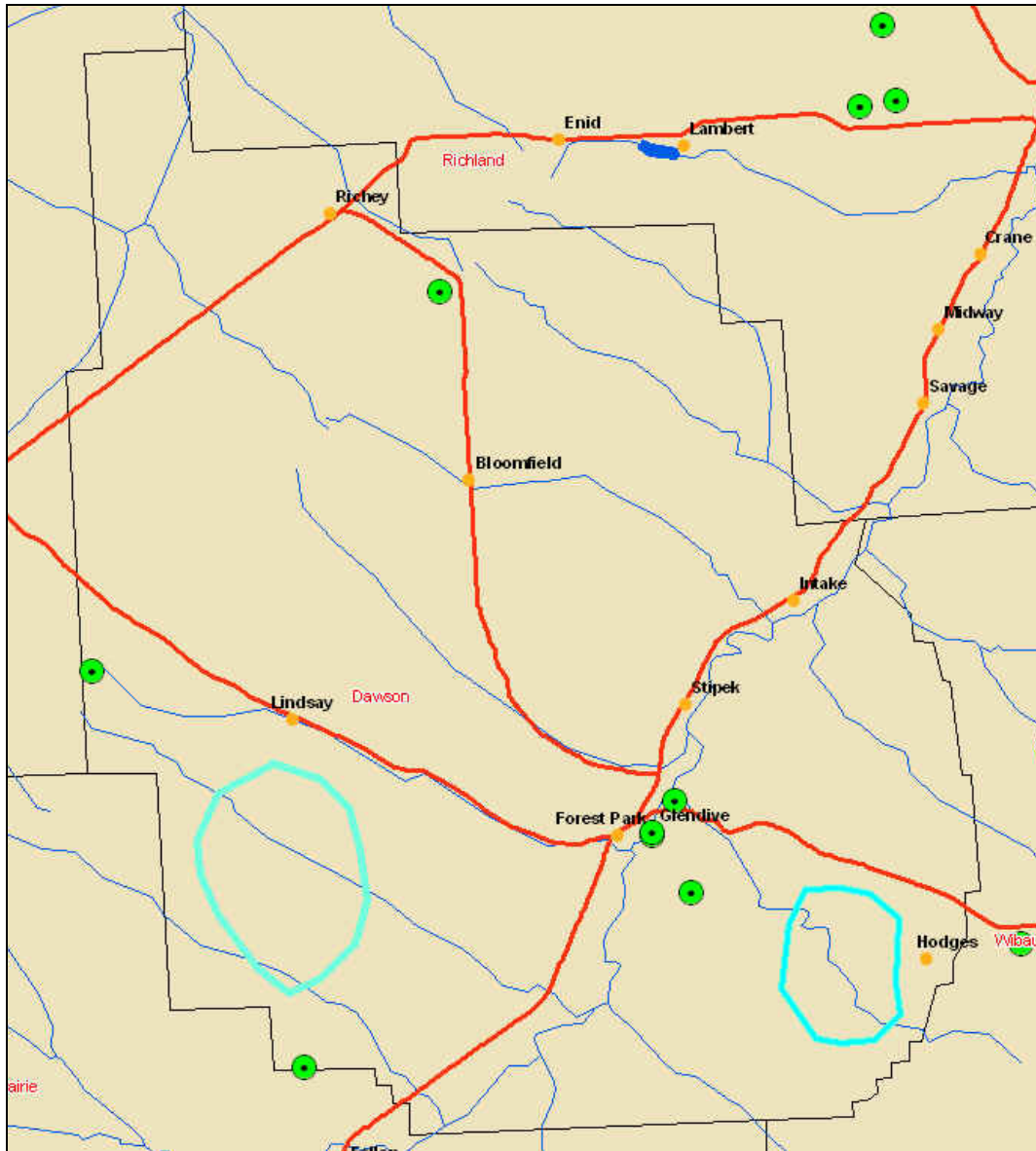


Figure 12 – Dead Spots, Dawson County

Note: Location of “dead spots” is very approximate. In addition, some areas within the dead spots will have better reception than others.